

1579  
/ (Very Illustrious Sir, my Brother. To-morrow morning your sons will leave this for Montepulciano. I trust they will arrive safe with God's grace, and though they a dislike to travelling in a litter as they wanted to go the whole way on horseback, still for 5 all that I wished that they should go in the litter.

There are three things I desired, and I told them, as well as the Abbot and Messer Giovanni. First, that at Montepulciano they go to school with the Jesuit Fathers, otherwise they will forget all they have learned here. And if they do not go to the schools of the Fathers, there will be no good their returning here the following year because they should be losing their time. And had they gone to the Fathers' school two years before coming here, they would by this time have finished their classical studies.

Secondly, they must attend the Congregation of our Lady, as they 15 have done here, and they must turn their thoughts to leading a devout and virtuous life, so that they may deserve a higher grade in the ranks of the Confraternity.

Thirdly, they must continue the good custom of sleeping alone, that is to say, each one in a separate bed, as they have done here, 20 a matter of so great importance as a safeguard of purity.

The expenses here in Rome for these boys for six months and a half have been 458 scudi. I have consigned to the Abbot sixty scudi for you, fifty five for Signora Camilla, and twenty five for Messer Lelio and his sister, and three scudi for Messer Fidanza Cini and 25 three for Madonna Antonia. With this salute all at home. Rome, June 2. 1615. Do not be surprised that I only send you sixty scudi, because we have not a quattrino left in the house, and what I am sending to Montepulciano is borrowed from the bank, as well as what I have for my own keep and to pay the servants of my house. The account of the 30 458 scudi spent on the boys is most exact.

Your most affectionate Brother  
The Cardinal Bellarmine )

[Goldic,ch.12,p.94. From Mss.Archiv.Vescov.Montispolit.]

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/ ( . . . . E truovo in una sua lettera di quando era già Cardinale e vecchio, che mandando ad alcuni suoi nipoti in dono una muta di poeti latini in premio e in ajuto de'loro studj d'umanità, v'aggiunge per ragione del non esser fra essi le comedie di Terenzio, 5 tuttochè quella sia la più gentile e colta lingua dell'antichità,) "perchè à giovani [dice] la natura e l'età rendono assai dilettevole il leggere detti e fatti d'amore: e ne avvien sovente, che quegli, ch'erano amori altrui, divengano proprj, concependoli dentro al cuore col troppo affissarlisi nella mente. Inteneriscono senza 10 avvedersene quelle lor tenerezze, e affezionano que'loro affetti. Così il finto amore d'un libro dispon l'animo del suo lettore a riceverne alcun vero: nè gli manca ad accendersi altro che l'appresarglisi d'una scintilla."

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Bartoli lib.I cap.~~XXX~~III.(p.17)

*originale infra in appendice tom.VIII*